

# Dr. James P. Syvertsen

## 2013 FSHS Honorary Member

James P. Syvertsen, born and raised in California, earned his B.A. in Biology (1970), his M.A. in Plant Ecology (1973) from California State University, and his Ph.D in Biology (1977) with emphasis on physiological plant ecology of desert species from New Mexico State University. He recently retired from the University of Florida/IFAS/Citrus Research and Education Center after 35 years as Emeritus Professor of Horticultural Science. During his career with UF/IFAS/CREC, Jim specialized in the "Environmental Stress Physiology of Citrus".

Jim first presented and published a paper in the FSHS Proceedings in 1983 and has been either the author or co-author of 33 papers and presentations throughout years as a member of FSHS. His research has involved rootstock water and nutrient relationships, citrus response to stresses from insects, diseases, pesticides, and mechanical harvesting. His research has also included environmental and nutritional effects on sheppose of grapefruit, eradicating the condition. His most outstanding contribution have been based on benefits of shade increasing citrus photosynthesis under

hot, dry conditions and the salinity problems that have affected over fertilized groves.

Over the years, Jim has received several awards. From 2008 to 2011 he received the University of Florida Research Foundation Professorship for "Distinguished Research Performance, Publications, Service and Commitment. In 2013, he was elected as an Honorary Member of FSHS and he received a Fulbright Research Scholarship award to research flooding tolerance in citrus rootstocks in Salto, Uruguay. Most recently he has received the ISHS Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions to Research and Education in Fruit Crop Physiology.

Under his leadership and his collaboration, several local and international meetings of horticultural focus have come to fruition. Jim was instrumental in the planning and success of the "2000 International Citrus Congress" in Orlando, The Florida Conference on Mechanical Harvesting in 2011, in addition to numerous growers meetings at CREC in Lake Alfred.

Most notably Jim has served FSHS as President and Vice President of the Citrus Section in 2006-2007, President in 2008, and Chairman of the Board in 2009. He has been a member of the Best Paper Award Committee and Nominations Committee several times. He has served as the Citrus Section editor several times and has been instrumental in the improvement of our flagship publication. Currently, Jim serves as co-supervisor of the publication of the FSHS Newsletter.

It is with honor and privilege that James P. Syvertsen has been named the 2013 Honorary Member of the Florida State Horticultural Society.

